

Claims:

20. (Currently Amended) A fatigue relieving/preventing apparatus associated with a steering wheel for controlling a vehicle comprising:

a first section that connects to a peripheral portion of the steering wheel; and
a second section that connects to, and extends from, the first section at the peripheral portion of the steering wheel, the second section extends from the first section outward at an angle to a plane across a face to the steering wheel, ~~with~~ the second section for supporting at least a portion of a vehicular operator's body when pressure from the portion of the vehicular operator's body on the second section is less than the pressure for deforming the second section out of interference with the vehicular operator's ability to operate the steering wheel, and deforming out of interference with the vehicular operator's ability to operate the steering wheel when pressure from the portion of the vehicular operator's body on the second section is equal to or greater than the pressure for deforming the second section out of interference with the vehicular operator's ability to operate the steering wheel.

21. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the second section is deformable in at least one direction when deforming pressure is applied to such second section.

22. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the second section supports a portion of the vehicular operator's body when pressure from such body portion is applied in at least one direction.

23. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the steering wheel includes a steering wheel for controlling at least a nautical vessel, an aircraft, or a ground transportation vehicle.

24. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the second section will return to an original first position after deforming pressure is removed therefrom.

25. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the portion of the body supported by the second section includes at least a forearm, wrist, or hand.

26. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the first section extends a length of a predetermined peripheral portion of the steering wheel.

27. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the second section includes at least two second sections that each connect to the first section at separate locations.

28. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20 or 27, wherein the first section is deformable.